(b) if so, the details of the report submitted by the team; and

(c) Government's response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) to (c) A Central team was deputed to Gujarat to interact with senior State Government functionaries in connection with the situation arising out of reported attacks on Christians and their institutions and to ascertain steps taken by the State authorities to control the situation. The Central Team recommended several measures to control the situation including measures to create confidence in the minority community and to ensure communal harmony. Based on the report of the Central Team, appropriate action has been taken.

Infiltration through West Bengal Borders

860. SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO:
SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether infiltration at alarming rates are going on through borders of West Bengal;

(b) whether the West Bengal Government has decided to fence 900Kms. of porous border with Bangladesh, to check infiltrations; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to grant Central fund for curbing such ISI activities, high migration threatening the State's economy?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) The Government of West Bengal has filed an affidavit in the Supreme Court in Writ Petition No. 125/98 filed by All India Lawyer's Forum for Civil Liberties. In this Affidavit the Government of West Bengal has admitted that over 10.24 lakh Bangladeshi nationals have overstayed after expiry of visa and the number of Bangladeshi nationals who have entered without valid documents is likely to be much higher.

(b) and (c) Fencing of 507 Kms. of West Bengal-Bangladesh border has already been approved by the Central Government out of which 463 kms. fence has been erected upto the end of December, 1998. An additional 889 kms. of fencing on West Bengal-Bangladesh border has also been approved in principle.

Upto 31 December, 1998, a sum of Rs. 430.40 crores has been spent by the Central Government for construction of border roads/border fencing on the West Bengal border.

Border Areas Development Programme was extended to West Bengal during the 8th Plan from 1993-94 onwards with an objective of balanced development of sensitive areas through provision of infrastructure facilities and promotion of a sense of security among the population. The Planning Commission has allocated funds amounting to Rs. 12342.22 lakhs under the programme to West Bengal upto 1998-99.

Anti-India Material Printed by ISI

861. SHRI K.M. SAIFULLAH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Inter Services Intelligence (ISI) is printing in Uttar Pradesh copies of Book containing anti-India speeches and smuggling them into the Jammu and Kashmir valley to indoctrinate the Kashmiri youths;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to ensure stoppage of supply of such propaganda material and save the youths of the country?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) According to available information, a book titled "Sang-e-meel" was written, published and printed in Uttar Pradesh

sometime in 1996-97. Some copies of the book were reportedly distributed by the author to his friends in Kashmir. It could not, however, be known whether Pakistan's ISI was behind the publication of this book.

(b) The book which is based on fiction and not on historical reality aims at widening the gulf between Kashmiri Pandits and Muslims. It has fundamentalist and anti-national connotations and highlights the alleged killings of Kashmir Musljms by the Security forces.

(c) The Government of Uttar Pradesh has already been requested to take appropriate action against the writer and publisher of the above said book under the relevant provisions of law.

Registration of Births and Deaths

862. SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether all births and deaths in the country are registered with the Registrar of births and deaths;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor and the present level of registrations;

(c) the steps taken to ensure that all births and deaths are registered in future; and

(d) the number of such offices functioning in Maharashtra, district-wise and block-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The reasons for low registration are primarily lack of awareness of the need and lack of motivation for registration among the people at large. Administrative weaknesses on the part of some state governments are also reasons for low levels of registration in their states since of Chief Registrars of Births and Deaths and the State Governments are responsible for the implementation of the registration of births and deaths in the respective states. In India as per the latest available statistics for 1994, 52 percent of births and 46 percent of deaths were registered.

(c) Some major steps which have been taken to improve the working of the system are:

(i) The Home Minister has written to the Chief Ministers of States which have low levels of registration. The Home Secretary has addressed the Chief Secretaries highlighting the need on the part of the State Governments to give special attention to this work.

(ii) The Registrar General, India held detailed review meeting of Chief Registrars and State Secretaries incharge of civil registration of all states and union territories.

(iii) Large scale publicity measures have been launched to create awareness among the general public about the importance of registration of births and deaths. The various media used are Radio, TV, postage, stationery, cinema slides, documentary films, posters and stickers.

(d) The District and Block-wise number of Registration Centres in Maharashtra as supplied by Government of Maharashtra are given in the Annexure. [*See Appendix 186, Annexure No. 17]*

Global Meet on Terrorism

863. SHRI AKHILESH DAS:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister had on 10th December, 1998 on the Human Rights Day, called for a global meet on terrorism, for evolving a time frame for dismantling weapons of mass destruction and combating terrorism; if so, whether